

## THE TRUE NORTHERNER.

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WHILE the recent pension legislation is not entirely satisfactory, it appears to be the very best that can be done at the present time. The Republicans in congress show evidence of their desire to deal liberally with the soldiers, but uncertainty as to the aggregate amount which these measures involve make it quite necessary to proceed with caution. This bill makes provision for the widows and orphans and dependent parents of men who served their country loyally, irrespective of the fact that the soldier's death may or may not have resulted from wounds or disease contracted in the service or whether the parents can prove dependence at the time of his death, as heretofore required. This is a long step in the right direction, and we believe the time is not far distant when still greater liberality will be shown the men who saved, and deserve so well of their country. While the Democrats in congress have been making great pretensions as the friend of the soldier during the consideration of this bill, this fact should not be forgotten: when the final vote came in the house, the majority of them voted against it.

### Why Foreigners Object to Tariffs.

The actions and utterances of those orators and editors who draw their inspiration from the Cobden club warrant the inference that, in their opinion, it becomes the first duty of congress to legislate for the convenience of foreigners rather than of our own people. Every proposition to discriminate in favor of the farmers, the workingmen and manufacturers of the United States by placing a tariff on such foreign products as are sent here for sale in competition with domestic products is insured in advance the opposition of every attorney for tariff reform. The proposal to make importers and their European principals contribute liberally toward defraying government expenses incident to the mail service, public debt, pension list and other equally worthy and imperative obligations, at once brings from both sides of the ocean an avalanche of protests suggestively similar in form and spirit. No matter how unreasonable the foreigner's demand, it is sure of a ready echo in his advocate here, whatever the treatment accorded by voter later on.

Threats that the foreign manufacturer will increase the price of his wares by the amount of whatever tariff is imposed, have long served as the bogie for scaring voters into support of schemes for tariff reduction; and the persistence with which this has been made to do duty attests the vigor of free trade advocacy. But it is precisely because this cannot be done that every importer and foreign manufacturer is found arrayed in opposition to whatever tariff they are compelled to pay. And it is only the American contingent of the free trade propaganda that denies this fact. English promoters of the Cobden policy are candid—as witness the recently expressed regret of the Birmingham Post that, under the terms of the McKinley bill, "the relief to English steel rail producers will not much exceed \$4 per ton," and that the position of foreign manufacturers in other lines "is likely to be worse under the new bill than under the old one."

It certainly would be interesting—it might prove profitable—if some promoter of the Cobden club doctrine in this country would cease repeating free trade platitudes long enough to explain to inquiring voters how a reduction in our tariff can relieve British manufacturers if they have no part of it to pay. We pause for a reply.

### Washington Letter.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 13, 1890. The president is much pleased that the conference committee has agreed and the house and senate passed a pension bill. The new bill is the result of a compromise, the senate conferees withdrawing the dependent feature, and the house conferees withdrawing the service feature of the bill which had previously passed the house. This makes a disability measure of the new bill, which will become a law in a few days. Representative Morrill estimates that the new law will add about \$36,000,000 per year to the pension expenditures of the government. The new bill limits the charges of pension agents to ten dollars for each claim prepared under it.

The silver question is becoming quite interesting in the senate, the finance committee having, after adding several amendments to the caucus bill which passed the house last week, reported the measure favorably, and Senator Morrill has given notice that he will, at the proper time, offer the house bill as a substitute for the Jones bill which the senate has been discussing for several weeks. After to-day the speeches on the subject, in the senate, will be limited to five minutes.

It is stated to-day that the senate finance committee has practically completed its consideration of the McKinley tariff bill, and that the bill will be reported to the senate next week. Perhaps it will be, but it is doubtful. The house republican caucus has agreed to consolidate the Rowell and Lodge federal election bills. After that is done another caucus will be held to determine whether the bill shall be pushed through at this session or left over until next winter. If the house should pass it, it is extremely doubtful whether it could be gotten through the senate.

The republican congressional cam-

paign committee has opened headquarters here, and the work will be rushed just as soon as a secretary shall be selected to take the place of Mr. Schuyler S. Olds, of Michigan, who has unexpectedly resigned the secretaryship to which he was elected last week.

The republican senatorial caucus nominated ex-Representative Valentine, of Nebraska, as sergeant-at-arms to succeed Mr. Canaday, whose resignation is to take effect July 1. There were a number of other candidates, but they were all out of the race after the first ballot. Mr. Valentine is well known here, and is sure to make an efficient and popular official.

An excursion party of Minnesota newspaper men and their families have been enjoying the hospitality of Washington this week, and if they have carried away as good an impression as they have left here, Washington has a right to feel very proud. It was a fine looking and brainy a crowd as ever visited the national capital, and they will be welcome whenever they may choose to repeat the visit.

Secretary Tracy this week opened bids for more than five millions of dollars worth of new vessels for the navy, the principal of which is to be the largest vessel ever built for the United States navy. Mr. Tracy thinks the bids were higher than they should have been, and he is now carefully going over them in detail to decide whether to throw them out on that account.

A private telephone wire has been strung between the president's private office and the residence of Secretary Blaine. That looks like strained relations between those two gentlemen, doesn't it?

Commissioner of Pensions Raum indignantly denies the allegations in the resolution offered by Representative Cooper providing for an investigation of the pension office, and says that he is ready at any time to have every act he has performed since taking charge of the office thoroughly investigated, and he hopes the house will adopt Mr. Cooper's resolution.

Representative Springer was charged in the lobby of the house, Tuesday, with opposing the passage of a private bill by the house through improper motives. Mr. Springer threatened to have the man who publicly accused him brought before the bar of the house, but he didn't do it. Was he afraid the man could prove the charge?

Mr. Blaine is not worrying himself over the attacks made upon him by the English newspapers because of the stand taken by this country in relation to the Behring Sea fisheries, and there is no probability of any change in our policy.

Are you troubled with corns or bunions? If so, let us give you a little advice. Pare them down as closely as possible without drawing blood; then soak them in warm water to soften them, and apply Chamberlain's Pain Balm twice daily, rubbing them vigorously for a few minutes at each application. A corn plaster should be worn for a few days to protect them from the shoe. As a general liniment for sprains, bruises, lame back, or rheumatism, Pain Balm is all that can be desired. 50 cent bottles for sale by all druggists, June.

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